

Parks For All Seasons Available

By JOE WAGNER
Star Staff Writer

Winterizing more than 700 acres of city park property, repairing and repainting tons of park equipment and still keeping four of the major recreational areas open for winter sports enthusiasts is quite a chore, according to Park Superintendent Howard Harbaugh.

Making the city's park facilities available 12 months of the year is one aim of Harbaugh and his crews, and with the arrival of winter's first protracted cold spell, skating surfaces at Deming, Dobbs and Collett Parks were ready for the skaters. The sledding hill at Deming Park was ready, too, when the first snow blew into town.

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At Rea Park, the clubhouse was a busy place during the holiday season as it was the scene for a number of Christmas parties.

Plans are under way to have year-around camping facilities at Dobbs Park ready by next year.

Harbaugh, who recently completed his first year on the job, in a report submitted to Mayor Leland Larrison, traced some of the achievements accomplished by his crews and the Terre Haute Board of Park Commissioners.

Vandalism brought some headaches to the department, too, according to Harbaugh.

At Rea Park, the city's only municipally-owned golf course, two greens were torn up by motorists who drove cars across the greens. City officials estimated damage to the putting surfaces at more than \$6,000.

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Picnic tables, benches and playground equipment finally were removed from Graham and Herz-Rose Parks after the park department twice repaired damage done by vandals.

Although the department went to considerable work to prepare ponds in Dobbs and Deming Parks for ice-skating, someone tossed firewood that had been stacked nearby for bonfires onto one of the Deming ponds before the ice had completely frozen, creating a hazard for skaters. At Collett Park, where plastic was placed over the two concrete tennis courts then sprayed with water by the fire department, someone tossed salt across a portion of the surface, making it unfit to skate on.

At the three largest city parks—Rea, Dobbs and Deming—major projects were completed.

At Dobbs, the city's newest park, two shelter houses were rewired; three new outside ovens were constructed, and a new gravel road around the park was built. Approximately



ICE IS ON THE PONDS—Ice skaters in the area have enjoyed skating on city park ponds since the first of January when the first cold weather moved into the area. Shown above are a group of the younger set at Deming Park. Those in the foreground are gathered around a bonfire, while others are cutting their figure-eights on the ice. Skating also is under way at Collett and Dobbs Parks. (Photo by Kadel)

2,600 feet of 10 inch sewer line was laid and connected with the city sewage system to make the park ready for camping by next spring. Ten new metal storage buildings were built and new restroom and shower facilities are at present under construction on the campground.

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The Izaak Walton shelter at Deming Park was torn down

and rebuilt. Six new bridges on different paths at the park were built and park employees repaired or rebuilt 21 ovens; repaired and painted 167 benches and 116 tables.

With the assistance of the Scented Garden Club, the front entrance to the park was replanted. All playground equipment was repaired and repainted, as were 150 trash barrels. A new Lions Club shelter is ready for installation at the park.

The new train purchased by the Spirit of Terre Haute was installed last summer and a tiny tots playground at present is being built by local Jaycees.

At Rea Park Golf Course, a number of tees were rebuilt; 21 new sand traps were added to the course; 302 small trees were planted for the first time since the clubhouse was built and a water line supplying it with a year-around water supply constructed.

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Two new concrete tennis courts were built. Water lines for use of sprinkler systems on No. 1 and No. 10 fairways have been installed. Weather permitting, work on the No. 11 fairway will start soon.

Extensive work was done on the interior and exterior of both the pro shop and the clubhouse. A new shed for storing golf carts was constructed and new backstops were placed on all tennis courts.

At Fairbanks Park, the artesian well was repaired; brush and shrubbery was trimmed and work was started on a pagoda, using materials donated by Benjamin Blumberg. About 50 small trees were set out and benches and tables repaired.

A new flag pole was installed at Collett Park, and the pavilion was cleaned up and reopened. Two new concrete tennis courts were built and roads in the park were patched or resurfaced. Rewiring work on the lights around the horseshoe courts was completed.

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New shrubbery was set out at Curtis Gilbert Park and new flower beds were completed. At Memorial Park, Paul Dresser Memorial, Sheridan Park and Spencer Ball Field, general maintenance work was completed and in some places, new

equipment was added. Booker T. Washington Park was cleaned up, trees were trimmed and a furnace was repaired.

Horseshoe courts and playground equipment at Thompson Park were repaired and at Voorhees Park, 150 small trees were planted and a new water line from the pump to the swimming pool and bathhouse was installed.

The running track at Hyte Community Center was scarified bladed and rolled; new high jump and pole vault facilities were built and new backstops on the football field were installed. A new flag pole was built and fencing was installed around the park.

At the Torner House Girls' Club, the furnace was overhauled, all downstairs rooms were redecorated, a new sprinkle pool was built and playground equipment was repaired and repainted.

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Th. Parks

3-6-69

TERRE HAUTE, STAR

Letters to the Editor

The Terre Haute Star welcomes letters from readers. The briefer they are the better the chance of publication. All are subject to condensation or rejection. All must be signed, but names will be omitted on request. The Star does not necessarily agree with statements made and does not assume responsibility.

To The Editor of The Star:

Terre Haute's city parks, under the supervision of Jerry Harbaugh, have never looked so pretty to so many persons since the bandstand was erected at Collett Park.

Dobbs Park is beginning to look like a recreation area that would have merited praise from the late Col. Richard Lieb. The clubhouse at Rea Park now offers facilities for social functions all months of the year.

Even Graham Park, the city's smallest, has had some dead trees removed that should have been cut down years ago.

But perhaps in his dedication to give Terre Haute its best park system ever, Superintendent Harbaugh might be overzealous in his plans for adding two or four deer to the small menagerie at Deming Park.

Wild deer are now common sights along even Interstate highways in Western and Southern Indiana. The deer appear to be quite tame and apparently would adapt to confinement in a deer yard at Deming Park.

They would — for about a year. Or, as long as they could survive the inevitable stoning and harassment from children who have never been taught wild animals (even rhinos) are not for throwing rocks at, or from indulgent parents who likewise consider any wild animal fair game for a well-aimed rock or stick.

Ducks, and even alligators, have been subject to abuse at Deming Park for years. Capering collegians have appeared in City Court for gouging gators and defeathering ducks.

Even if the deer could be

completely confined behind fine mesh cyclone fencing including fencing over the top of the deer yard to protect them from rock-throwers, there is still even a bigger problem to their possible survival — feeding.

Although deer have four stomachs the same as a cow, deer are not grazing animals — they browse. No amount of hay or brans will keep deer alive for long. They require roughage — like plenty of aspen leaves, birch bark, even some types of conifers to gnaw on and if they don't get it — they die with full stomachs, but yet of starvation.

Game management biologists strongly recommend against the penning of deer in small areas (such as they would have to be confined in at Deming Park) and in some states the confinement of wild animals at privately operated roadside zoos (Uncle Moe's Monkey Jungle 7 miles ahead) has been banned.

Superintendent Harbaugh might consult with state game biologists about the feasibility of adding four deer to Deming

Park's zoo complement of three bears.

Meanwhile, Jerry, keep fixin' up the parks like you've been fixin', and who'd want to make the long trip to Yellowstone when what we got is so good here!

Hopefully yours,
BAMBI AND THE GANG

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VIGO COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

The Judge of the Circuit Court appoints the citizens who serve as the members of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Board. They receive \$25.00 per month for serving with the exception of Mr. Virgil Griffith, County Agent, who serves as an ex-officio member. Their meetings are held on the fourth floor of the courthouse.

NAMES	Jan.	Feb.	March
Jack Wood	P	P	P
Maxine Winklepleck	P	P	P
R. Fox Burns	A	P	P
John E. Etling	A	P	P
Virgil Griffith	P	P	P

(Please note that in all above charts that presence at a meeting is indicated by P and an absence by A.) *HELP APRIL 1969*

City Considers Park For Terre Town Area

By JOE WAGNER
Star Staff Writer

A meeting has been scheduled for 9 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 12 between Terre Town residents who are interested in establishing a park in their area and the Terre Haute Board of Park Commissioners.

The meeting will be in the Commissioners office at City Hall.

Sid Levin, president of the board of commissioners, made the announcement of the meeting after a regular board meeting Tuesday. He said several persons in the Terre Town area have indicated a willingness to contribute land for a park there.

Levin said it might be possible to set aside about \$12,000 in the park department budget and attempt to obtain two-to-one matching federal funds that are

available for development of the proposed park.

Two years ago the city was the recipient of approximately \$86,000 from the estate of the late Julius Brittlebank. Terms of the will stipulated the money must be used for the development and maintenance of a new city park.

None of the money has been used. It has been proposed that a mall in the downtown area be constructed with the money, but Levin said no decision has been made on the suggestion.

Meanwhile, litterbugs are taking over Deming Park, according to Howard Harbaugh, city park superintendent. Other city parks also are faced with a similar problem.

Harbaugh Tuesday said al-

though there are approximately 300 trash barrels clearly stenciled as such at Deming Park, the area looked as if everyone who visited it over the weekend had dumped and scattered trash. He said none of the trash cans contained any trash.

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Harbaugh estimated about 12,000 persons visited the park over the weekend.

He said steps will be taken by his department to enforce a city ordinance that prohibits littering in municipal parks.

The measure, General Offenses Code, Section 517.05 says, "No person shall throw, discharge, dump, deposit, place or leave or cause to be thrown, discharged, dumped, deposited, placed or left on any streets, parkways, roadways, thoroughfares, alleys, sidewalks, vacant lots, front yards or porches, in or on the grounds of public parks, swimming pools, playgrounds, recreation areas, public building, streams, water or banks of such streams or rivers, any waste paper, ashes, grass, cans, dirt, rubbish, waste, garbage, refuse or any other trash."

Violators are subject to a maximum fine of \$300 or six months in jail, or both, according to Harbaugh.

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School-Parks Recreation Program Ends Successfully

The Vigo County School Corporation and The Terre Haute Park Department concluded supervised activities on Thursday. The program has been coordinated by Donas Dischinger, Coordinator of Athletics for the school corporation and Howard Harbaugh, Superintendent of Parks. Supervisors of the program were Mrs. Emma Jane Gardner, Chairman of Elementary Physical Education for the school corporation and Donald P. Jennings of the Elementary Physical Education Department and Baseball Coach at Garfield High School.

Baseball Leagues have been conducted at Woodrow Wilson and Spencer F. Ball Field with Jon Tipton and Howard Sharpe heading the programs, assisted by Richard Ballinger, Franklin Sullivan, Gene Bonfer, and Fred Hord. Jay Barrett has directed the Softball Center at Memorial Park. Tennis instruction has been provided at Rea Park, Woodrow Wilson, Collett Park, and Terre Town under the leadership of Pete Chalos, Dave Cundiff, Judy Downen, and Susan Rozgony. The children at the general recreation centers have enjoyed the handcraft program provided by Nancy Browder, Joetta Brooks, Nancy Turman and Dorothy Uselton. Free plunge periods at the

YWCA have been provided under the supervision of Mrs. Margaret Wright.

General recreation leaders were: Norman Trench, Larry Stuckey, Norman Stultz, Chris Stultz, Patricia Logan, Barbara Contin, Larry Wolfe, Leslie Bain, Mary Ellen Laufman, Edward Russell, Judith James, Vickie Jo Hall, Anthony Schmitz, Brenda Purcell, Herschell Tyler, John Tidd, Susan Rozgony, Harlan Lautenschlager, Mona Wong, Julia Hosteter, Bill Kassis, Harriett Elbaum, James Peck, Bill Denny, Thomas Roberts, Doris Hamblin, Jim Bondi and Frank Jovi.

Winners in the tetherball tournament at Terre Town were: Dennis Grimes, first, Bob Jessor, second, and Howard Mills. Other participants were Darryl Brown, Jeff Scully, Jerry Nice, Brian Lowder, and Deanna Grimes. Leading hitters in softball at Thornton Center were J. Chagares, B. Folger, G. Crithlon, B. Hootor, G. Coy, and "Irving." At Maryland Center, Hoe Swofford was the tetherball champion with Brian Schoemaker in second, and Jan Neal, Doug Denchie, and Debbie Denchie tied for third.

Wiffle Ball Contest

In a wiffle ball contest at Cannon Rick Silcock was the champion with Steve Switzer

and Rod Elkins in second and third. Ansel Greenwood was the boys' croquet champ with Tom Bowden the runner-up and Todd Elkins in third. Croquet Girls' Champ was Rose Bellue with Territa Elkins and Pam Bellue in second and third places. Home Run Derby winner was John Foradori. Charles Vicars and Paul Tidd finished second and third. Norman Burris was the Tetherball Champ. Second and third places went to Bob Tidd and Ron Bellue.

Kevin Gregory and Don Lemon were the fastest for their classes in the fifty-lap bicycle race at Fuqua Center. Don Miller and Mike Miller were second place finishers with Tim Dougherty and Mike Rogers finishing third. Fastest in running the bases for their age groups found a tie between Rick McLaughlin and Tim Clark for the older group with Dave Eaton undisputed winner in the younger group. Karen Mulvihill finished second for the younger group, and Kyle Gregory and Mark Mitchell placed third. Fifty-yard dash first place winners were Karen Mulvihill and Tim Clark, Mike Eaton placed second for the younger group and Rick McLaughlin and Mark Mitchell tied for the older group. Dave Eaton placed third.

Tetherball champions were Richard Brian and Rich McLaughlin with Tim Brian and Kevin Gregory finishing second and Mike Heien and Mark Mitchell in third spot.

Pie-Eating Contest

A pie-eating contest at Thompson Park caused a great deal of fun for the boys and girls. Blue ribbons were awarded to Bobby Noble for the older group with Tony Bass and Nate Spencer tying for those under twelve. Sylvester Roberts and Darlene Payne won red ribbons for second and Mike Crawford and Craig Porter received the white ribbons for third. Bobby Noble was also the checker champion with Charles Noble runner-up and Karen McGoffney in third.

First place winners in a horse-shoe tourney at Sheridan Park were John Reedy and his partner Jack Hansel. Loren Smith and Gary Lee were second place winners and Mike Britton and Rick Shorter were recipients of third place ribbons. Larry Lee was the champion in croquet with Greg Mankin and Shelly Pate winning second and third places. In a Pick-up-Sticks tourney Mike Britton, Tick Shorter, and Billy Crawford finished in that order.

Torner House

The girls at Torner House concluded the recreation season with a watermelon eating contest on Thursday. Winners in a batting contest for their various age groups were Connie Archer, Kelly Ames and Teresa Morman tied, and Lynn McPerson, Tammy Meister, and Susan Archer tied for their group. Second place winners were Julie Ames, Thonda Miller and Lucia Davies.

In the puppet show at McLean Center David Farmer had the most original and Jill Edgings had the prettiest puppet. In the ten years and older, the croquet winners were Cheryl Allen, Allen Farmer, and Darold Oty finishing in one-two-three order. For those under ten Kathy Allen was first, Rany Whittedge second, and Karen Allen third. David Farmer was the tetherball champion for the younger group and Cheryl Allen for the older group. Shelly Gray and Rhett Gray were badminton champions for their age groups.

The biggest dog in the Memorial Park Dog Show was owned by Jeff Bensinger with Nellie Girth placing second. Randy Hayne had the smallest dog with James Loyd receiving the red ribbon for second. The cutest dog was shown by Rick Bundle with Jim Smith placing second. For the most unusual name of dog Chris Gillin and Robert Mitchell placed first and second.

In the Cat Show first place winners in the various categories were Kathy Lawson, Lisa Shaw, and Greg Cooper. Jim Smith, Terri Lawson, and Penny Lynn Cooper placed second; third place resulted in several ties and those who received third place awards were David Jackson, Wayne Puckett, Jim Loyd, Rick Bundle, Stella LaMasters, Melissa Cooper, and Chris Gillen. Winners with other pets mainly fish and birds were Lola Edwards, Nellie Girth, Andy Hayne, Danny McGill and Jeff Kenworthy.

At the Dreser Center the tetherball champion for the boys was Ramey Weir who defeated Danny Fagg and Jim Brock who placed second and third. Terri Lowe was champion for the girls with Terra Gott and Linda Gown in second and third positions. Mo Carlsyle was the "shot put" champion with John Wolfe and Gary Smith receiving second and third.

In the Road Runner contest at Fairbanks Center first place winners were Tim Hudson and Tim Walker with Danny Tanoos and Arthur Eslick in second spot and Rosie Miller, Pete Dillon and Penny Hammond in third and fourth places. Greg Eslick was croquet champ for the young fry with Tommy Neff and Mark Shafer finishing second and third. Billy Gurchiek and Peter Stewart were tetherball champions for their respective age groups. Linda Higgenbottom and Jim Shafer were second place winners. Third places went to Ronnie Shafer and Tim Walker. Fourth place finishers were Bonnie Slater and Rosemay Miller.

The boys and girls in the county have enjoyed the many activities in the supervised recreation program and it is hoped that they have learned to work and play together, to give and take gracefully, to accept decisions, and to abide by rules as well as to develop skills.

T.H. Recreation
EDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1969

City Lost \$8,700 On Operation Of Swim Pools

Terre Haute's three municipally operated swimming pools ran approximately \$8,700 in the red during the 1969 season, according to a report made Tuesday at a meeting of the Terre Haute Board of Park Commissioners.

Howard Harbaugh, city park superintendent, said the loss was the greatest since the pools opened about six years ago.

On the credit side, Harbaugh told the commissioners the city's municipal golf course, Rea Park, collected nearly \$53,000, the largest amount taken in for several years.

Sid Levin, park board president, told the group improvements at Washington Park have drawn several compliments. Included in the improvements were a new tennis court and a new basketball court.

Harbaugh told the commissioners construction on the new outdoor stage and auditorium is scheduled to begin Wednesday with completion expected early in 1970.

City Councilman John Napier said he had received several complaints because bridle paths and horseback riding had been discontinued at Deming Park. After some discussion, it was agreed Napier and Harbaugh would mark out a bridle path in the park. Harbaugh said if park rules are violated, horseback riding again will be continued.

In other business, the park board presented Golby C. Uhler, executive director of the Terre Haute Department of Redevelopment, with a certificate of appreciation for the department's grant of land formerly

owned by the Terre Haute Ice Company to the park department as an addition to Fairbanks Park.

Attending the meeting along with Levin, Harbaugh and Napier, were Mayor Leland Larison and commission members

Frank Johnson, vice president; Mrs. Lucille Endes, secretary, and John Valle.

INDIANA ROOM

Vigo Co. PARK
Board.
Appointment
Of Vigo Park
Head Confirmed

The appointment of David Beres to superintendent of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department, effective the first of next month, was confirmed Monday by the County Park and Recreation Board, Jack Wood, president.

Beres, 26, of 7003 Luer Lane, succeeds Richard Norris, superintendent since the department was organized two years ago who resigned to accept a teaching position with a junior college at Champaign, Ill. Norris will continue to conduct the affairs of the department until the end of this month, while Beres acquaints himself with his new position.

The new superintendent was born in Gary and reared in Hobart. After graduation from Hobart High School in 1961, he attended Indiana State University through 1963, entering military service in the spring of the following year. An Army enlistee, he served from January, 1965, to March, 1966 with the First Special Forces Group (Airborne) on Okinawa.

He received his service dis-

TERRE HAUTE TRIBUNE.
Monday, Aug 18, 1969 7

charge in 1966 and in August of that year was married. Beres returned to college the following month and received his bachelor's degree in health, physical education and recreation in January of this year. He is to receive a master's degree in recreation at the completion of the current summer term at Indiana State University.

His wife, Lillian, is a graduate of Ball State University and teaches at Pimento School. Prior to marriage, her home was in South Bend. The couple has twin daughters, Kristen Marie and Delynn Teal, 22 months old.

Vigo Co. Park Board
PARK, RECREATION
BOARD RE-ELECTS

Officers of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Board were re-elected for the current year at the January meeting Tuesday in departmental offices at the Courthouse.

President is Jack Woods. Fox Burns Sr., is vice president, and Mrs. Maxine Winklepeck is secretary.

Department Superintendent David Beres reported after the meeting that an attempt will be made to flood the surface of the snow-covered lake at Fowler Park in an effort to provide for ice skating at the park.

He said that in spite of the extended cold spell, the snow cover has made ice skating impossible. However, it is believed that ice formed under the snow will support the attempt to turn that snow-cover into a skating surface as water is pumped from the lake to the surface.

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Vigo Co. PARK RECREATION BOARD

VIGO PARK BOARD MEETS TUESDAY

The Vigo County Park and Recreation Board will have its regular monthly meeting Tuesday at 4 a.m. in the park department office, fourth floor of the Vigo County Courthouse.

Attending his first meeting will be Max Miller, new area extension agent, who replaces Virgil Gruttko as ex officio member of the board.

David Botes is superintendent at the county park department. Several Indiana State University graduate students and Prof. Ken R. Baedtscher are expected to attend Tuesday's meeting.

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T. H. Parks

T. H. Parks

STAR

8-23-
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PR

CITY GETS GIFT OF LAND PARCEL FOR PARK SITE

The Terre Haute Department of Redevelopment has given to the city a plot of ground for a municipal park, according to Golby Uhler, redevelopment director.

Uhler said his department had presented the city the former property of the Terre Haute Ice and Coal Storage Co., located on the west side of First Street just south of Oak Street. The land amounts to 50,000 square feet, or slightly more than an acre.

"The total effect of this on the city amounts to a gift of about \$65,000 worth of property," said Uhler. "We originally purchased the property for \$35,000 and then we spent another \$10,000 having the building razed and the ground leveled."

Uhler said a well located on the property had been saved and could be available for the park.

City Park Superintendent Howard Harbaugh said the plot of ground was adjacent to the present Fairbanks Park site and would become a part of that park.

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Vigo County Public Library

Vigo Recreation 7 LOCAL AGENCIES REPRESENTED AT 70 RECREATION TALKS

Area recreation and youth service officers met Tuesday in the first of a series of meetings devoted toward a coordinated effort.

Seven representatives of the various agencies met at the invitation of Vigo County Park & Recreation Director David Beres in his office at the Courthouse.

Participants in the initial discussion, consisting primarily of comparing existing facilities and programs of the individual agencies, included Boys' Club Director Ted Moore, YWCA Director Mrs. Nattkemper, Community Action Program Recreation Director Joe Beima, Mrs. William Fry of the Girl Scouts Covered Bridge Council, 4-H Youth Agent Richard Biggs, and Donas Dischinger of the Vigo County School Corporation.

Beres, who noted that more participants were expected to attend the next meeting, in February, said: "I believe that meetings of this type will lead to a more complete range of recreational services to be offered to the people of Terre Haute and Vigo County."

16

Vigo Co. Recreation

Vigo Park Chief Seeks Funds To Acquire 110-Acre Site

A second Vigo County park, located 1½ miles east of Prairie Creek on State Road 246 and one mile north of 246, may be in Vigo County's future, according to David Beres, superintendent of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department.

Beres said he has requested \$28,300 from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, of the State Department of Natural Resources, for the proposed Prairie Creek Park.

He said the park department would have matching county funds available after the first of the new year.

Prairie Creek Park would include an 18-acre lake in its approximate 110-acres. The other county park, Fowler Park, is about 140 acres in size.

"It would be easy to get to," Beres said. "It would be beautiful, beautiful."

He said the Prairie Creek Conservancy District now owns about 95 acres of the land needed.

The Conservancy District is building a flood control lake at the site, Site Three.

"This is a heavily-wooded area," Beres said, "which is about a half-mile long and a quarter-mile wide." He added the lake will be about as long and about 200 yards wide with a quarter-mile inlet shooting off.

The county park superintendent said the state had received about three-quarters of a million dollars for such projects.

"We won't know for sure until January whether we'll receive the requested funds," Beres said, "but state officials seem to be very optimistic."

said he would probably call two more witnesses Thursday. Jury members are Arthur E. Walls Jr., Lawrence C. Ellsworth, Mabel M. Hine, Irene B. Mattox, Donald P. Conway, Kenneth W. St. John, Floyd F. Carpenter, Mary C. Ewing, Richard A. Brown, Jerry E. Long, Louis A. Froeb and Albert W. Taylor.

Vigo Co. Recreation County Park Superintendent Takes Issue With Broadcast

Vigo County Park and Recreation Department Superintendent David Beres released a statement Friday to THE TRIBUNE taking exception to a radio and television report this week on a Fowler Park addition.

Beres noted several discrepancies in the broadcast report which, he said, fell far short of

presenting the whole and factual story.

The park official stated that the property, two-and-one-half acres of ground with a house and garage at the entrance to the park, was purchased for \$23,000 which was the appraised value, not the assessed value as was broadcast.

He stressed that the property acquisition was a part of the long-term development of the park and the result of negotiations over the last two years. Beres noted further that the planned acquisition had been reported on several occasions over the period of negotiations including the report of the fund appropriation by the County Council last summer.

Supt. Beres said the addition is ideally located for the purposes of overseeing the park entrance and afforded space for a maintenance building which has been constructed to house equipment and repair facilities.

He expressed gratitude to the former owner of the property, Daie Whitlock, who retains occupancy until the first of March, for permitting construction of the metal maintenance building at the acceptance of the proposition and in advance of the sale completion, and to Thomas Mobile Homes, which firm donated the building.

Finally, Beres said that the broadcast report of plans for him to move into the house on the property was premature. Acknowledging that is a possibility, in the spring, the park superintendent said, "The board has not acted on that as yet and the extent to which I may receive rental consideration in lieu of a raise this year has yet to be determined."

Beres assumed the department superintendency in the fall of 1969 at a salary of \$8,500 per year. He said that was raised to \$10,000 in 1970, but that no further salary increase was advanced in the 1971 budget.

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Vigo Co. PARKS

Trib-STAR 3/16/69

County Park Chief Outlines Need for Recreation Plan

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the sixth in a series of reports to acquaint our readers with the various aspects of conservation and recreation. It is hoped this series will stimulate public concern and action to preserve our natural resources and develop recreation facilities to accommodate future needs.

By **DICK SUTLIFF**
Tribune Staff Writer

"The need to acquire open space land for park development is becoming extremely important as our cities expand and suburbs are created around our central cities," says Richard D. Norris, superintendent of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department.

"People are seeking out the county living atmosphere, which has created a sprawling effect miles out into the country," Norris notes, adding that "it behooves those of us in the park and recreation field to implement long-range planning goals for open space land acquisition."

"We are transcending from a work-oriented society to a leisure-oriented society," Norris pointed out. "Therefore, it is

not only necessary to acquire land for park purposes, but it is also of paramount importance to provide constructive recrea-



RICHARD NORRIS

tion programs for the worthy use of people's leisure time," Norris said.

The county park chief says it's important to remember that "we must teach people how to

live as well as how to earn a living" as we enter into a leisure-oriented society.

"The question has been asked many times if leisure is a blessing or a curse," Norris notes.

His answer:

"I feel that if we can provide the opportunity for people to pursue wholesome recreation activities, we can then use our leisure time to the betterment of our lives, and it will be a blessing."

Norris echoes statements made by other park and recreation experts when he points out that by the year 2000, the population of the United States will nearly double, and the overall demand for outdoor recreation will triple.

"With more people, a greater demand for outdoor recreation, more free time, money and mobility, it will be a difficult job to provide recreation areas to meet this tremendous demand," Norris declared.

Action Needed Now

But he sees one way the job can be accomplished.

"Only by being responsive to the recreation needs, and im-

Only by taking immediate action

now, can we hope to meet this challenge that lies before us," he says.

Norris pointed out also that, as a county, state and a nation, "we are behind in meeting the recreational needs of the people. Only by taking immediate action can we hope to overcome this lag."

In conclusion, the park superintendent offered these observations:

"All people must ask themselves what type of an environment they want to live in.

"Is it one which provides open spaces for recreation activities where they can picnic, take a leisurely walk, fish or take part in many of the other recreational activities, or do they want to live in a landscape devoid of any open space land?"

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Community Affairs File

VIGO CO. PARKS
Richard Norris
Resigns Vigo
Park Position

The resignation of Richard D. Norris, superintendent of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department for the past two and a half years, was accepted with regret by the Board at its meeting Monday morning in the Park Department Offices in the Vigo County Courthouse.

Norris submitted his resignation in writing, and the effective date is Aug. 31. He has accepted a position on the faculty of Parkland College in Champaign, Ill., to teach recreation leadership. He holds a BS degree in recreation from Indiana University, and earned his MS degree in recreation at Indiana State University.

In other business transacted at the meeting, the Board members instructed attorney Frederick T. Bauer to investigate the possibility of having the park personnel deputized. They decided to put up a chain and sign at the entrance to Fowler Park, indicating the regular 11 p.m. closing hour. However, Norris added that campers and people who are able to go to the park early in the mornings for fishing, could enter.

The Park Department has received approximately \$1,000 to be used for redesigning the Otter Creek watershed. Ewing Miller and Associates has been awarded the contract for this.

All members of the Park Board were in attendance. President Jack Wood presided.

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Community Affairs File

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